

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 258175

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ORIGIN OES-06

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

UNCLAS STATE 258175

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCLR, TPHY, TBIO, MX, CS, GT

SUBJECT: R/V WECOMA CLEARANCE REQUEST

1. R/V WECOMA, A PRIVATE VESSEL OPERATED BY OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY, IS PLANNING TO CONDUCT A RESEARCH CRUISE IN THE EASTERN TROPICAL PACIFIC OFF CENTRAL AMERICA DURING THE PERIOD 11 JANUARY 1977 THROUGH 4 FEBRUARY 1977. THE RESEARCH WILL BE FUNDED BY THE OFFICE OF NAVAL RESEARCH. PURPOSE OF THE CRUISE IS TO STUDY THE DISTRIBUTION OF REACTIVE TRACE GASES IN RELATION TO POSSIBLE SOURCE AND REMOVAL PROCESSES IN A BIOLOGICALLY RICH AREA. BASIC CHEMICAL AND PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF THE DISSOLVED GASES WILL BE STUDIED IN RELATION TO NATURAL OCCURRING OCEAN PROCESSES AND THE EFFECTS OF HUMAN ACTIVITIES.

2. HYDROGRAPHIC AND CHEMICAL DATA WILL BE COLLECTED BY USING BOTTLE CASTS AND THERMOMETERS. CORERS, NEAR-BOTTOM WATER SAMPLERS, AND PINGERS WILL PERMIT
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PAGE 02 STATE 258175

INTERSTITIAL WATER CHEMISTRY SAMPLING. CHEMICAL

ANALYTICAL EQUIPMENT WILL BE USED ONBOARD. A COPY OF THE SHIP'S TRACK SHOWING STATION LOCATIONS IS BEING POUCHED.

3. THE CHIEF SCIENTIST IS LOUIS I. GORDON AND THERE IS

SPACE ON BOARD FOR 4 GOM PARTICIPANTS. OSU HAS CONTACTED THE CENTRO DE INVESTIGACION CIENTIFICA Y EDUCACION SUPERIOR DE ENSENADA CONCERNING POSSIBLE COOPERATION. ALL DATA RESULTS WILL BE OPENLY SHARED WITH THE GOM.

4. CAPTAIN OF THE SHIP IS HOWARD A. LINSE AND THERE IS A CREW OF 13 AND SCIENTIFIC PARTY OF 16. SHIP'S LENGTH IS 177 FT, DRAFT 17.6 FT, AND GROSS TONNAGE 289. RADIO CALL SIGN IS KRSF AND SHIP MONITORS EMERGENCY DISTRESS FREQUENCIES.

5. ACTION: EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO SEEK CLEARANCE FOR THE R/V WECOMA TO CONDUCT RESEARCH ON THE CONTINENTAL SHELF AND TERRITORIAL SEA OF MEXICO FOR THE PERIOD 11 JAN THROUGH 4 FEB 1977. KISSINGER

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